Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 060018
ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-14
CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03
NASA-02 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 PA-02 DOE-11
CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-15 /167 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/PA:JMPOPE:CF
APPROVED BY ACDA/PA:TAHALSTED
----------025668 090313Z /64
P 082310Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 060018

USSALTTWO/CTB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: MARCH 8 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX

1. SYNDICATED COLUMNIST VICTOR ZORZA, WRITING IN MARCH 8 WASHINGTON POST, DECLARED THAT KREMLIN'S INTEREST IN SALT IS NO LONGER STRONG ENOUGH TO GIVE WASHINGTON LEVERAGE IT ONCE HAD." FOR ITS OWN POLITICAL REASONS, ZORZA SAID, KREMLIN WANTED SALT, "AND BADLY AT THAT." IN SOME WAYS, HE CONTINUED, MOSCOW'S DESIRE FOR SALT COULD BE COMPARED TO ITS WISH FOR TRADE AND CREDITS FROM U.S. "IT DID WANT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 060018

THEM BADLY, BUT WHEN POLITICAL PRICE PROVED TOO HIGH, ITS DESIRE COOLED OFF." BREZHNEV, HE SAID, HAS SHOWN IN RECENT MONTHS "DECLINE THAT MUST HAVE ONCE AGAIN AFFECTED HIS DECISIVE ROLE IN POLICY-MAKING PROCESS. BREZHNEV'S PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO SALT, HIS ASSOCIATION WITH IT FOR NUMBER OF YEARS, HIS VISION OF IT AS MONUMENT TO HIS PERIOD IN OFFICE ARE BEYOND DOUBT. HIS ABILITY TO MAKE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

THAT VISION COME TRUE AT TIME WHEN HIS POLITICAL CONTROL IS LESS THAN COMPLETE, WHEN CONTENDING FACTORS IN MOSCOW ARE THINKING AHEAD TO FUTURE WITHOUT BREZHNEV, MUST BE SERIOUSLY IN QUESTION. THAT IS ONLY ONE OF NUMBER OF REASONS WHY KREMLIN MAY NO LONGER WANT SALT AS BADLY AS IT ONCE DID. IT MAY ALSO HAVE PERSUADED ITSELF -- AS HAVE SOME SALT SUPPORTERS IN U.S. -- THAT FOR TECHNICAL AND STRATEGIC REASONS, AN ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT IS NO LONGER AS VITALLY NECESSARY AS IT WAS. SOME EXPERTS ON ARMS CONTROL HAVE LONG ARGUED THAT SECURITY OF BOTH COUNTRIES COULD BE ENSURED BY DOING WHAT IT THOUGHT WAS NECESSARY FOR ITS OWN DEFENSE, WHILE SEEKING NOT TO PROVOKE OTHER -- BECAUSE IT WOULD INDEED BE IN INTEREST OF EACH NOT TO PROVOKE OTHER." ZORZA SAID IF BRZEZINSKI MAY BE WRONG ABOUT SALT-AFRICA LINKAGE, "HE IS CERTAINLY RIGHT ABOUT SERIOUSNESS OF SOVIET THREAT IN HORN, AND ABOUT NEED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT." ZORZA MAINTAINED THAT ACTIVIST FACTION IN KREMLIN WOULD WANT TO TAKE PROGRESSION AND PATTERN ESTABLISHED IN EARLIER SOVIET INTERVENTIONS IN AFRICA, "IN ABSENCE OF EFFECTIVE U.S. COUNTERACTION, TO ITS NATURAL CONCLUSION IN SOUTH AFRICA. THAT IS WHY WHITE HOUSE MUST FIND WAY TO STOP RUSSIANS BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE...."

2. NEW YORK TIMES, IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "SALT DILEMMA AND HORN," ASSERTED THAT "TO MAKE SALT TALKS HOSTAGE TO UNCLASSIFIED

SOVIET ADVENTURISM IS VISCERAL REACTION, UNDERSTANDABLE BUT MISTAKEN. AFRICA WILL LONG BE THEATER OF RIVALRY IN COMPLEX SOVIET-AMERICAN GLOBAL RELATIONSHIP THAT IS PARTLY COMPETITIVE AND PARTLY COOPERATIVE. PRECISELY BECAUSE OF THAT COMPETITION, MOST IMPORTANT COMMON INTEREST OF SUPERPOWERS IS EFFORT TO CURB THEIR ARMS RACE IN STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS. NO MATTER WHAT THEIR OTHER INTERESTS, THIS ONE IS VITAL TO BOTH." TIMES SAID SLOW-DOWN NOW IN SALT NEGOTIATIONS, "OSTENSIBLY OVER ETHIOPIA," COULD AROUSE DEEP SUSPICIONS IN KREMLIN THAT U.S. IS SEEKING UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE IN NUCLEAR ARMS RACE. "DELAY INCREASES DANGER THAT SALT NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE DERAILED BY SUCESSION STRUGGLE IN KREMLIN. MR. BREZHNEV, WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS, CLEARLY WOULD LIKE SIGNING AT WASHINGTON SUMMIT AS CULMINATION OF HIS SEVEN-YEAR POLICY OF DETENTE. IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY THAT U.S. SHOULD NOT MISS."

3. ROBERT KAISER OF WASHINGTON POST SAID PRESIDENT CARTER'S "ANNOUNCED DETERMINATION TO TIE FUTURE WARPLANE SALES TO ISRAEL TO SALES OF ADVANCED AIRCRAFT TO SAUDI A,A0IA AND EGYPT HAS SET OFF AN UNPRECEDENTED TEST OF

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

STRENGTH FOR SO-CALLED ISRAELI LOBBY IN CONGRESS." KAISER SAID "ISRAELI LOBBY" ALREADY HAS BEGUN CAMPAIGN TO BLOCK PACKAGE IN CONGRESS, BUT ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS INSIST THAT CARTER WILL NOT ABANDON PLAN "OR HIS DESIRE TO DEMON-STRATE AMERICAN 'EVENHANDEDNESS' IN DEALING WITH ARABS AND ISRAELIS." SOME ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, KAISER SAID,

CALCULATE THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE ON WHICH "ISRAELI LOBBY" CAN BE BEATENED. "THEY REASON THAT PUBLIC AND CONGRESS HAVE NEW APPRECIATION FOR NEED TO DEAL POSITIVELY WITH ARAB NATIONS AS WELL AS ISRAEL."

4. TIME MAGAZINE (MARCH 13) REPORTED THAT "FEARS PERSST ON CAPITOL HILL THAT SOVIETS HAVE UNDERHANDEDLY VIOLATED
UNCLASSIFIED

OLD SALT AGREEMENT AND CANNOT BE TRUSTED TO KEEP NEW ONE." LISTING CHIEF POINTS OF THE 18-PAGE COMPLIANCE REPORT SEC-RETARY VANCE GAVE TO SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE LAST WEEK, TIME SAID DEBATE OVER SALT WAS HEATED UP EVEN MORE BY EVIDENCE OF POSSIBLE SOVIET TRANSGRESSIONS, "ONES VANCE RLPORT DOES NOT ADDRESS." TIME SAID ACCORDING TO SOME PENTAGON ANALYSTS, MOSCOW IS OPERATING 64 BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINES -- TWO MORE THAN C IL NG SET BY SALT ONE. "OTHER U.S. ANALYSTS ARGUE THAT BECAUSE TWO EXTRA SUBS HAVE NOT YET BEEN SET OUT ON PATROLS, SOVIETS HAVE NOT EXCEEDED LIMIT. MOREOVER, THREE ADDITIONAL NEW SOVIET DELTA-CLASS MISSILE SUBS HAVE BEEN RIGGED AND ARL READY FOR SEA TRIALS, BUT THEY ALSO NOT BEEN USED ON PATROLS. THUS, SAYS U.S. NAVY INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, 'RIGHT NOW IT JUDGMENT THAT NO HARD EVIDENCE OF SOVIET VIOLATIONS EXISTS, THOUGH WE DO AGREE THAT THEY ARE PUSHING RIGHT OUT TO EDGES.'"

5. DREW MIDDLETON OF NEW YORK TIMES SAID AIR FORCE'S MX MOBILE MISSILE PROGRAM, ALREADY SLOWED BY CARTER ADMINISTRATION, FACES FURTHER DELAYS AND POSSIBLE SCRAPPING BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT MISSILE'S ABILITY TO SURVIVE AN ATTACK. HE SAID WILLIAM PERRY, UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSL FOR RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING, TOLD CONGRESSIONAL SUBCOMMITTEE LAST WEEK THAT HE COULD NOT RECOMMEND FULL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT OF MX WEAPON SYSTEM BECAUSE OF "FUNDAMENTAL TECHNICAL UNCERTAINTIES." MIDDLETON SAID BOTH DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD AND NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL ARE EVALUATING FOUR DIFFERENT BASING METHODS FOR MX. CIVILIAN AND MILITARY SPECIALISTS IN WASHINGTON AND WESTERN EUROPE, HE REPORTED, BELIEVE THERE IS CHANCE THAT PROJECT WILL BE SCRAPPED. VANCE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS CONTROL INSPECTION, SALT (ARMS CONTROL)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE060018
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JMPOPE:CF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780105-0653
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780391/aaaacyvo.tel
Line Count: 167
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 02ea0fcb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3398515
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH 8 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL INTEREST LONDON FOR AMB/EX
TAGS: PARM, SOPN, UR, US, (ZORZA, VICTOR)
To: GENEVA USSALTTWO
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/02ea0fcb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014